

# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



## EXECUTIVE ORDER 1388

**WHEREAS**, opioids are a class of drugs that includes prescription pain relievers such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, and fentanyl, as well as the illegal drug heroin; and

**WHEREAS**, continued use of opioids can lead to physical dependence, abuse, and even death; and

**WHEREAS**, the amount of opioids prescribed in our country and state is at an all-time high and has led to a nationwide epidemic of opioid abuse and opioid-related deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, Mississippi is one of the leading prescribers of opioids, and therefore, Mississippians are at a greater risk for substance abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to better understand opioid use and addiction in Mississippi in order to properly address the issue plaguing our state and country.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby create an Opioid and Heroin Study Task Force.

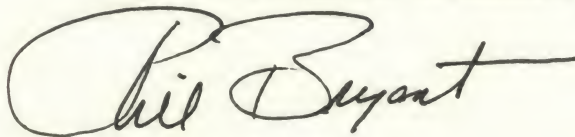
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** the Governor shall appoint such number of members and a Chair as he deems necessary. Members of the Opioid and Heroin Study Task Force shall serve voluntarily.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** the Opioid and Heroin Study Task Force shall meet as often as necessary and from time to time make recommendations to the Governor of how to best fight opioid and heroin abuse and how to prevent it in the future.



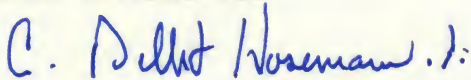
**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

**DONE** in the City of Jackson, on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December in the year of our Lord, two thousand and sixteen, and of the independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-first.



**PHIL BRYANT**  
**GOVERNOR**

**BY THE GOVERNOR**



**C. DELBERT HOSEMANN, JR.**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**